

I proudly join my colleagues in honoring him with this resolution, and expressing our deep sympathy to Mrs. Betty Ford and her family.

21ST ANNUAL CHILI BOWL MIDGET
NATIONALS TULSA, OKLAHOMA

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2007

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, this weekend marks the 21st Annual Chili Bowl Midget Nationals held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. This great event, which was founded in 1987, is organized by Emmett Hahn and Lanny Edwards, recent inductees into the National Midget Auto Racing Hall of Fame. The Chili Bowl is referred to as midget racing's answer to the Super Bowl.

This annual event draws thousands of people to the Tulsa area from around the country and will bring in an estimated \$12 million to Tulsa's economy. The Chili Bowl itself, held in the Tulsa Expo Center, is an exciting four nights of super powered midget vehicles racing on a quarter-mile clay oval track.

The Chili Bowl draws everyone from amateur drivers to NASCAR champions, who view this event as a great way to spend their off season. This year's event will feature Kasey Kahne, who drives for Evernham Motorsports in the NASCAR Nextel Cup Series, and Tony Stewart, who drives for Joe Gibbs Racing in the NASCAR Nextel Cup Series and was the Chili Bowl champion in 2002. In addition, reigning Chili Bowl champion Tim McCreadie will be there to defend his title.

I would like to welcome all the fans and participants to Tulsa and hope that they have a fun, safe event.

TRIBUTE TO KEITH NELSON

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2007

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the patriotism and military service of Mr. Keith Nelson of Fleming, Colorado.

Mr. Nelson was born in Sterling, Colorado, and served in the Army in the Pacific theater during World War II from 1944 to 1946. During his military service, he witnessed an incredibly significant moment in history, the end of the Battle of Okinawa. I believe his story is most worthy of being preserved in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

It was close to the end of the fighting in Okinawa, when L Company, 32nd Regiment, 7th Infantry Division had been assigned the task of taking a grove of trees near the southern tip of the island, one of the last pockets of Japanese resistance. Mr. Nelson's platoon was led by a former marine who wanted the glory of reaching the ocean first. As they entered the trees, an American flame throwing tank came up behind them; it had probably been assigned the job of burning the brush and flushing out any concealed Japanese soldiers.

Being the scout of the platoon, Mr. Nelson was assigned the job of stopping the tank. He

went warily back, and walked up very close to the tank, and shouted at the soldiers inside. They hadn't seen Nelson, and when they heard him, they threw the flamethrower in his face. He jumped back and began yelling so they would know he wasn't the enemy and, fortunately they calmed down.

When Nelson got back to his company, his platoon leader rushed them through the grove as fast as they could go. If enemy soldiers had been in there, they would all have been dead.

They kept moving until they could see the edge of the cliff bordering the water; their leader had achieved his objective. As platoon scout, Mr. Nelson was the first to look upon that glorious scene, the end of the Battle of Okinawa. And though he didn't know it at the time, that made him the first to see the end of fighting in World War II.

After the war, Keith returned to Colorado and married Wanda Moncrief in 1948. They had four sons, Dennis, Brett, Elon, and Gary. Mr. Nelson currently resides in Fleming, Colorado.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful for Mr. Nelson's selfless service to our Nation. His story should be preserved for posterity. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing a man worthy of our honor, Mr. Keith Nelson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2007

Mr. NORWOOD. Madam Speaker, on roll call No. 13; On agreeing to the Resolution (H. Res. 35). Had I been present, I would have voted "No."

RECOGNIZING BRAD BAILEY FOR
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brad Bailey, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 357, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

I join with his family and friends in expressing best wishes on his significant achievement. I commend Brad on attaining such a high honor and his superior contributions in his community. In addition, Brad has shown much patriotism by serving me in two of my offices as an intern. I am sure he will continue to hold such high standards in the future.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brad Bailey for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout. I am honored to represent Brad in the United States House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING REBEKAH
FRIEND FOR HER APPOINTMENT
AS THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF THE ARIZONA AFL-CIO

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2007

Mr. PASTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to congratulate Ms. Rebekah Friend for her appointment as the new executive director of the Arizona AFL-CIO. In this capacity she will manage the day-to-day operations of the organization. Through this appointment, Ms. Friend is once again making history in Arizona's labor movement by being the first woman appointed to this position. Previously, she was the first female president of the Arizona AFL-CIO chapter.

Ms. Friend began her labor career in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers over 25 years ago. During her time as president of the Arizona AFL-CIO, Ms. Friend led numerous initiatives aimed at advancing the working conditions of Arizona's workers, such as improving unemployment insurance and worker's compensation for union members. Additionally, Ms. Friend has worked arduously to raise awareness of the plight of immigrant workers. During this past election season, she also chaired the Minimum Wage Coalition, which successfully helped pass proposition 202 to increase Arizona's minimum wage.

Apart from her work at the Arizona AFL-CIO, Ms. Friend has also served in official capacities with the Arizona Consumer Council, Arizona Citizen Action, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, Southern Poverty Law Center, Habitat for Humanity, and Emerge Arizona. She was the YWCA's 2004 Woman of the Year and was presented with a lifetime achievement award by the Arizona Democratic Party in 2002.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Ms. Rebekah Friend for her recent appointment and to express my gratitude for her determination in fighting for the rights of all of Arizona's workers.

HONORING RALPH MOORE

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2007

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Ralph Moore of Visalia, California, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on January 14, 2007.

Mr. Moore has devoted his life as an innovative agriculturist. He founded Sequoia Nursery in Visalia, California in 1937 with \$800 and a dream of hybridizing miniature roses. His dream became reality, and it continues to thrive today.

Mr. Moore's achievements go beyond his entrepreneurial accomplishments. He has introduced more than 500 roses onto the market, mainly miniatures. He has received the American Rose Society's "Award of Excellence" for 20 of his miniature rose introductions, as well as being honored with other prestigious national and international awards over the years. In 2004, the City of Visalia